initiating the telephone mode in response to contact with the touchscreen display that corresponds with the telephone mode icon.

17. The method of claim 15 and further comprising the steps of:

generating an icon representing a personal digital assistant mode;

displaying the personal digital assistant mode icon on the touchscreen display; and

initiating the personal digital assistant mode in response to contact with the touchscreen display that corresponds with the personal digital assistant mode icon.

18. The method of claim 15 and further including the step of transmitting the telephone number to a central switch for dialing.

19. The method of claim 15 and further including the steps of:

the buttonless communications device receiving an incoming call; and

indicating the incoming call by an alert indication.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the alert indication is an aural tone.

21. The method of claim 19 and further including the step of automatically switching to the telephone mode upon receipt of the incoming call.

22. The method of claim 15 and further including the steps of:

switching to a telephone book mode;

finding a desired telephone number for calling; and

initiating a telephone call by contact with the desired telephone number.

23. A communications device that transmits and receives communication signals, the communications device comprising:

a tactile response, touch-screen display comprising dynamically activated tactile elements; and

a controller, coupled to the tactile response, touch-screen display, the controller controlling operation of the communications device including dynamically activating the tactile elements, the controller comprising means to generate icons representing data for display on the touch-screen display.

24. The communications device of claim 23 and further comprising:

a transmitter that converts electrical representations of aural signals into communication signals for transmission over a medium; and

a receiver that receives communication signals for conversion into received electrical representations of aural signals.

25. The communications device of claim 23 wherein the tactile response, touchscreen display is comprised of a matrix of substantially closely spaced tactile elements.

26. The communications device of claim 25 wherein the tactile elements are activated by electrically addressing a desired tactile element.

27. The communications device of claim 25 wherein the tactile elements are activated by addressing a desired tactile element utilizing a fluid controlled by the controller.

28. The communications device of claim 23 wherein the controller has means for forming a numeric keypad by activating a plurality of the tactile elements situated over number icons generated on the touchscreen display.

29. A method for communication by a buttonless communications device comprising a tactile element, touchscreen display, the method comprising the steps of:

generating a plurality of data icons on the touchscreen display;

activating a sufficient quantity of tactile elements over each of the plurality of data icons to provide a tactile response to touching a data icon; and

generating a telephone number in response to which particular data icons are selected by contact with the touchscreen display.

30. The method of claim 29 and further including the step of displaying the telephone number generated by the selection of particular data icons.

31. The method of claim 29 and further including the step transmitting the telephone number to a central switch in order to call the telephone number.

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